



Air Force Research Laboratory|AFRL

Science and Technology for Tomorrow's Air and Space Force

Success Story

SENSORS CONTRACT ENGINEER WINS AOC AWARD FOR COMMUNICATIONS



Mr. Mark Speed, a Ball Aerospace and Technologies Corporation engineer working in the Sensors Directorate, received the Association of Old Crows (AOC) Communication Award for his dedication, technical expertise, and initiative displayed during the development of a highly flexible Link-16 simulation software package. His outstanding achievements in the development of communications systems will benefit future sensor systems and their communications capabilities.



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Accomplishment

Mr. Speed's duties include lead for integration simulation, hardware-in-the-loop, software development, and system test in the Electronic Warfare Branch's Virtual Combat Synthetic Battlespace Laboratory (VCSBL). He is also the technical lead for the uninhabited combat air vehicle (UCAV) project.

Mr. Speed led a diverse team of government and contractor personnel to create, implement, and demonstrate a Link-16 network simulation capability suitable for use in a fully integrated, distributed simulation environment. He developed a software package capable of simulating a full Link-16 network and the interfaces necessary to integrate the capability into a distributed interactive simulation environment.

Background

The Aeronautical Systems Center was interested in investigating operational concepts for the use of the joint strike fighter (JSF) in conjunction with the UCAV. The work was undertaken in their Simulation and Analysis Facility (SimAF). SimAF has a highly developed simulation environment and access to detailed models for the JSF and UCAV, but they required access to a credible communications link model.

The directorate's VCSBL facility teamed up with SimAF to integrate their existing Link-16 simulation capability into SimAF's simulation environment for JSF and UCAV. Mr. Speed was selected to lead the VCSBL's integration team based on his experience and expertise.

Sensors
Awards and Recognition

Additional information

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